

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:RWAHERNE:JM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236817 TOSEC 270681

NODIS

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM AHERNE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MISCELLANY

1. NICK THIMMESCH CALLED AGAIN. I TOLD HIM TO STAY COOL,
AND HE SAID HE WAS.

2. NO FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLICATION OF THE AVIATION WEEK LETTERS
AT THE NOON BRIEFING. UPI HAS COVERED THE RELEASE OF HAK
AND BUSH LETTERS CONCENTRATING ON THE LATTER (TEXT SEPTTEL).

3. I HAD A SESSION WITH THOMAS AND MISSLBECK ON THE CSCE
LEAK, AND INVESTIGATION HAS BEGUN. ONE PROBLEM IS THAT IT
MAKES NO SENSE; WE APPEAR TO HAVE NO ZEALOTS IN THE BUILD-
ING ON THIS ISSUE -- PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED
TO PUT THE LETTER OUT TO SUPPORT ONE OR ANOTHER POLICY VIEW.
IT IS CONCEIVABLE I SUPPOSE THAT SOME WELL-MEANING BUT
BRAINLESS TYPE SHOWED THE LETTER TO FASCELL OR HIS STAFF
IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE HOW WE WERE TRYING TO BE
COOPERATIVE; IT MIGHT HAVE MADE ITS WAY TO THE POST IN THAT
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FASHION. WE SHALL SEE WHAT TURNS UP.

4. AM SENDING YOU SEPTTEL FOR THE SECRETARY AN APPRECIATION OF WHERE THE CAMPAIGN STANDS AFTER THE FIRST TWO WEEKS, AND ON THE EVE OF THE FIRST DEBATE. BASICALLY MOST AGREE THAT CARTER HAS LITTLE TO SHOW FOR TWO WEEKS OF FRENETIC ACTIVITY BUT CONTROVERSY, ALTHOUGH I AM SOMEWHAT SUSPECT THAT THIS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM MAY BE TOO EARLY, AND TOO LITTLE APPRECIATIVE OF THE FACT THAT THE IMPACT OF PERSONAL CAMPAIGNING MAY NOT SHOW UP IN POLLS FOR A FEW WEEKS. TONIGHT'S DEBATE BEGINS THE REAL CAMPAIGN, AND THE LAST ESTIMATE I SAW INDICATED THERE WOULD BE AN AUDIENCE OF OVER 100 MILLION.

5. WE WILL HOLD OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF THE SECRETARY DOING THE BUSINESS COUNCIL (ON AFRICA) ON OCTOBER 16. THERE MAY BE A PROBLEM PROGRAMMING TRAVEL FROM BOSTON (10/15) TO HOT SPRINGS IN TIME FOR THE SCHEDULED MORNING SESSION, BUT THE BUSINESS COUNCIL HAS BEEN GOOD IN THE PAST ABOUT ARRANGING THEIR SCHEDULE TO MEET THE SECRETARY'S; I WILL HAVE MORE SPECIFICS ON THIS WHEN YOU RETURN. I THINK THIS WOULD BE A GOOD ONE TO DO, AT THAT TIME, FOR REASONS THAT GO BEYOND AFRICA. ROBINSON

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